

REMARKS

These amendments and remarks are being filed in response to the final Office Action dated January 31, 2006. For the following reasons this amendment should be entered, the application allowed, and the case passed to issue. The amendment clearly places the application in condition for allowance and no new matter or considerations are introduced by this amendment.

Claims 7-14, 16-25, 28, and 29 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6, 15, 26, and 27 were rejected. Claims 7-14, 16-25, 28, and 29 are allowed. Claims 1-6, 15, 26, and 27 have been canceled in this response.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7-14, 16-25, 28, and 29 are allowed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 1-6, 15, 26, and 27 have been canceled. As only allowed claims remain pending, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U. S. C. § 103

Claims 1-6, 15, 26, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCay (U.S. Patent No. 6,283,276) in view of Laxo (U.S. Pat. No. 2,455,127). This rejection is traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal thereof respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 15, 26, and 27 have been canceled, thus this rejection is moot.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this amendment should be entered, the application allowed, and the case passed to issue. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite the prosecution of the application.

10/823,791

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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